

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SAB-02 L-03 DLOS-09

IO-14 EUR-12 /082 W

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R 182150Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2813

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

PANCANAL

USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 5136

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PN, CS

SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE VISITS PANAMA

1. LUIS ALBERTO MONGE, THE NATIONAL LIBERATION PARTY'S NOMINEE TO SUCCEED PRESIDENT DANIEL ODUBER, VISITED PANAMA OVER THE WEEKEND AS THE GUEST OF VICE PRESIDENT GERARDO GONZALEZ. HEADLINE STORY IN "LA ESTRELLA" JULY 18 QUOTES MONGE AS CONFIDENT THAT THE NATIONAL LIBERATION PARTY WILL WIN THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS IN COSTA RICA "BY A WIDE MARGIN".

2. REFERRING TO THE CANAL NEGOTIATIONS, MONGE STATED THAT HE SUPPORTS "PANAMA'S ASPIRATIONS FOR A NEW TREATY THAT WILL LIQUIDATE THE COLONIALIST PRESENCE IN PANAMA AND LATIN AMERICA". HE NOTED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS INVOLVE "LATIN AMERICAN QUESTIONS"; THEREFORE, PANAMA SHOULD RECEIVE THE SUPPORT OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY ABOUT THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF ROBERT VESCO IN COSTA RICA, MONGE SAID THAT "FROM THE STANDPOINT OF NATIONAL CONVENIENCE, VESCO SHOULD LEAVE COSTA RICA". HE NOTED THAT THE VESCO CASE HAD BEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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USED BY THE OPPOSITION TO "MAINTAIN AN ATMOSPHERE OF SCANDAL AND POLITICAL TURMOIL" DURING THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN.

4. MONGE WAFFLED AROUND A QUESTION ABOUT HIS PARTY'S POSITION ON BELIZE. HE STATED HIS SUPPORT FOR "THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF DETERMINATION" AND OBSERVED THAT THE

"PRESENCE OF GREAT BRITAIN IN BELIZE WEAKENS THAT PRINCIPLE". "HOWEVER," MONGE CONTINUED, "ANY OTHER SOLUTION THAT DOES NOT CONSIDER THE WISHES OF THE BELIZEAN PEOPLE ALSO WEAKENS THE PRINCIPLE".

GONZALEZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Film Number: D770267-0955
Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Subject: COSTA RICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE VISITS PANAMA
TAGS: PINT, PN, CS, (MONGE, LUIS ALBERTO)
To: STATE
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